

**Amendments to the Claims**

1. (Currently amended) A ~~composition which is a~~ therapeutic composition for a disease caused by ~~a failure in the survival, proliferation and/or differentiation of a cell characterized by containing eosinophil cationic protein and pharmacological components~~ at least one of the following: decreased fibroblast proliferation, agenesis of stress fiber, immaturity of myocardial cell muscle fiber, decreased heartbeat rate, decreased nerve cell survival rate, and decreased osteoblast differentiation,

wherein the therapeutic composition comprises eosinophil cationic protein and a pharmacological component and wherein the eosinophil cationic protein has a concentration of not more than 1  $\mu$ M at a target cell.

2. (Currently amended) A method of treating a ~~The composition according to claim 1,~~ wherein the disease caused by at least one of the following: decreased fibroblast ~~a failure in the survival, proliferation, agenesis of stress fiber, immaturity of myocardial cell muscle fiber,~~ decreased heartbeat rate, decreased nerve cell survival rate, and decreased osteoblast differentiation,

which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutic composition comprising eosinophil cationic protein and a pharmacological component and wherein the eosinophil cationic protein has a concentration of not more than 1  $\mu$ M at a target cell and/or differentiation of a cell is a heart disease, bone disease or neurodegenerative disease.

3. (Currently amended) A medium composition that causes at least one of the following: promotion of fibroblast proliferation, promotion of stress fiber formation, maturation of muscle fiber of myocardial cells, increase in the number of heartbeats, improvement of survival rate of nerve cells in a low-serum medium or serum-free medium, and promotion of osteoblast

differentiation.

wherein the medium composition comprises eosinophil cationic protein and a cell biological component and wherein the eosinophil cationic protein has a concentration of not more than 1  $\mu$ M.~~which is a medium composition for promoting the survival, proliferation and/or differentiation of a cell containing eosinophil cationic protein and a cell biological component.~~

4. (Withdrawn) A screening method, which is a method of screening an active ingredient substance of a therapeutic composition for a disease caused by a failure in the survival, proliferation and/or differentiation of a cell, characterized by bringing a candidate substance into contact with a cell and specifying, as a target substance, a substance for promoting the survival and/or differentiation of a cell at the same level or higher than eosinophil cationic protein.

5. (Withdrawn) The screening method according to claim 4, wherein the cell is a nerve cell, bone cell, myocardial cell or fibroblast.

6. (New) A method of promoting fibroblast proliferation comprising cultivating fibroblast in a medium comprising not more than 1  $\mu$ M eosinophil cationic protein and a cell biological component.

7. (New) A method of promoting stress fiber formation comprising cultivating fibroblast in a medium comprising not more than 1  $\mu$ M eosinophil cationic protein and a cell biological component.

8. (New) A method of causing hypertrophy of a myocardial cell comprising cultivating a myocardial cell in a medium comprising not more than 1  $\mu$ M eosinophil cationic protein and a cell biological component.

9. (New) A method of promoting myocardial cell differentiation comprising cultivating a myocardial cell in a medium comprising not more than 1  $\mu$ M eosinophil cationic protein and a cell biological component.

10. (New) A method of increasing heartbeat rate of a myocardial cell comprising cultivating a myocardial cell in a medium comprising not more than 1  $\mu$ M eosinophil cationic protein and a cell biological component.

11. (New) A method of improving the survival rate of a nerve cell comprising cultivating a nerve cell in a low-serum medium or serum-free medium comprising not more than 1  $\mu$ M eosinophil cationic protein and a cell biological component.

12. (New) A method of promoting osteoblast differentiation comprising cultivating an osteoblast in a medium comprising not more than 1  $\mu$ M eosinophil cationic protein and a cell biological component.

13. (New) A method of inhibiting promotion of fibroblast proliferation comprising adding ROCK inhibitor to the medium in the method of claim 6.

14. (New) A method of inhibiting promotion of stress fiber formation comprising adding ROCK inhibitor to the medium in the method of claim 7.

15. (New) A method of inhibiting hypertrophy of a myocardial cell comprising adding ROCK inhibitor to the medium in the method of claim 8.

16. (New) A method of inhibiting promotion of myocardial cell differentiation comprising adding ROCK inhibitor to the medium in the method of claim 9.
17. (New) A method of inhibiting increased heartbeat rate of a myocardial cell comprising adding ROCK inhibitor to the medium in the method of claim 10.
18. (New) A method of inhibiting improvement of a nerve cell survival rate in a low-serum medium or serum-free medium comprising adding ROCK inhibitor to the medium in the method of claim 11.
19. (New) A method of inhibiting promotion of osteoblast differentiation comprising adding ROCK inhibitor to the medium in the method of claim 12.